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of an entirely new class of characters, and brings us into conversance with a new order of biographical talent. This is the very time for the preparation of the volume now before us. The Methodists have been of late sedulously building the sepulchres of their early prophets. Their clerical biography has been enriched by the lives of many of those rude and zealous pioneers, who incurred dangers by flood and field, and "perils among false brethren," with a resolution which no earthly power could daunt, and with a devotion which seemed to revive the martyr-age of primitive Christianity. Meanwhile, in later years the Methodist Church has assumed the patronage of learning, endowed educational institutions of a high order, and called into its service no mean array of men who in cultivation and in all the graces of pulpit oratory have stood abreast of the first preachers in our older denominations. Sketches of both classes are to be found in this volume, in due and well-adjusted proportion; so that we pass from the wild adventure and romance of border life into the society of refined and scholarly divines. In the former portion we find much that is grotesque, much that appeals to our most tender sympathies, much that elicits our profoundest reverence; while in the latter we witness as entire a consecration of the best gifts to the holiest uses as has been seen since the days of the Apostles. In the whole we trace Dr. Sprague's kind and catholic spirit, exquisite skill and taste, and hardly equalled industry.

22. — *A Memoir of Daniel Safford.* By his Wife. Boston: American Tract Society. 1861. 12mo. pp. 384.

THIS is a very remarkable life. Daniel Safford was born in Hamilton, Massachusetts, in 1792, and died in Boston in 1856. He had a scanty district-school education, was apprenticed to his brother, a blacksmith in Salem, and at an early age established himself in that trade in Boston. He gradually became a prosperous man, resolved to cease adding to his property when it had reached forty-five thousand dollars, and during the last thirty years of his life gave for charitable uses more than seventy thousand dollars, — the benefactions of some single years amounting to between four and five thousand. But his was a character to be measured by no pecuniary estimate. In his boyhood he became an earnest and devoted Christian, and one who felt the solemn weight of his Master's parting charge to his disciples. His religion was a working force, making his domestic and social life pure, upright, and beautiful, training his intellect and judgment for posts of weighty trust and offices of momentous counsel, energizing him for active and self-

denying charity, lifting him, with all the modesty of a lowly spirit, into the position of a high-priest among his brethren, by a holier unction than could flow from human lips or drop from human fingers, making him honored and beloved as few men in a generation are, and rendering him the centre and source of genial influences that extended to the high places of education, the lowest depths of want and depravity, the remotest missionary stations in heathendom. His house was not only the abode of warm-hearted hospitality, but the established home of missionaries, self-consecrated men and philanthropic women, the asylum for forsaken widowhood and orphanhood, whether of high or low degree on the conventional scale, the sanctuary for prayer and conference on the great Christian enterprises of the day. How his time and means sufficed for so large an amount of activity and charity none knows but the Lord who strengthened and blessed him. The facts are patent, and are given in detail, with name, date, and circumstance; else they would almost exceed belief. No one who desires to do good, no one who would become conversant with illustrious examples of Christian excellence, should fail to read this Memoir, or can read it without being stirred to warmer vows and more strenuous efforts for his own growth in the spiritual life, and for the service of his generation and race.

- 23.—*Christ in the Will, the Heart, and the Life. Discourses.* By A. B. MUZZEY. Boston: Walker, Wise, & Co. 1861. 16mo. pp. 371.

THIS is one of a kind of volumes of which we cannot have too many. It consists of thirty-two parish sermons, on the simplest and most essential themes of Christian belief and duty, bound together by no other thread of unity than the uniform purpose of the true minister, not to display himself, but to preach the Gospel, and to preach that not speculatively or abstractly, but in its close application to the infirmities, needs, trials, and griefs of his hearers. Mr. Muzzey's style is not ambitious or highly rhetorical, but perspicuous, pure, and grave. His illustrations are drawn, not from remote topics, but from the inherent contents of his subject and the condition of those whom he addresses. His subjects cover a wide range, yet are, with hardly an exception, within the compass appropriately termed evangelical. The Discourses are Scriptural, not by over-affluent quotation, but by their reliance on the authority of revelation, and by their constant recognition of its supremacy in all matters of faith and duty.